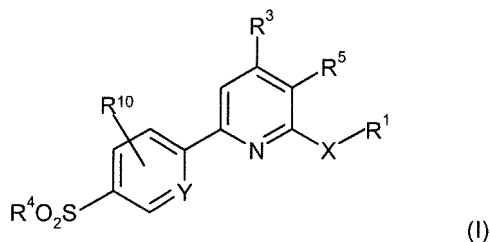


In the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in which:

X is selected from the group consisting of oxygen and NR^2 ;

Y is CH;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkyl substituted by one to five fluorine atoms, C_{1-3} alkyl OC_{1-3} alkyl, C_{3-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} alkynyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl C_{0-6} alkyl, C_{4-7} cycloalkyl substituted by C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy, C_{4-12} bridged cycloalkyl, and $\text{A}(\text{CR}^6\text{R}^7)_n$;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of H and C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-5} alkyl and C_{1-2} alkyl substituted by one to five fluorine atoms;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl, NH_2 and R^9CONH ;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkyl substituted by one to five fluorine atoms, C_{1-3} alkyl O_2C , halogen, cyano, $(\text{C}_{1-3}\text{alkyl})_2\text{NCO}$, $\text{C}_{1-3}\text{alkylS}$ and $\text{C}_{1-3}\text{alkylO}_2\text{S}$;

R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from H and C_{1-6} alkyl;

A is an unsubstituted 6-membered aryl, or a 6-membered aryl substituted by one or more R^8 ;

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl substituted by one more fluorine atoms, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy substituted by one or more F, NH_2SO_2 and $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkylSO}_2$;

R^9 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkylOC}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, phenyl, $\text{HO}_2\text{CC}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkylOCOC}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkylOCO}$, $\text{H}_2\text{NC}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkylOCONHC}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$ and

C₁₋₆alkylCONHC₁₋₆alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of H and halogen; and
n is 0 to 4.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₂alkyl substituted by
one to five fluorine atoms, C₁₋₃alkylOC₁₋₃alkyl, C₃₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆alkynyl,
C₃₋₁₀cycloalkylC₀₋₆alkyl, C₄₋₁₂bridged cycloalkyl, and A(CR⁶R⁷)_n; and,

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl, C₁₋₂alkyl
substituted by one to five fluorine atoms, halogen, cyano, (C₁₋₃alkyl)₂NCO,
C₁₋₃alkylS and C₁₋₃alkylO₂S ;.

3. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein
n is 1 to 4.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein:

X is oxygen;

Y is CH;

R¹ is A(CR⁶R⁷)_n;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₅alkyl and C₁₋₂alkyl substituted by
one to five fluorine atoms;

R⁴ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl, C₁₋₂alkyl
substituted by one to five fluorine atoms, C₁₋₃alkylO₂C, halogen, and
C₁₋₃alkylS;

A is an unsubstituted 6-membered aryl, or a 6-membered aryl substituted by one
or more R⁸;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyl
substituted by one more fluorine atoms, C₁₋₆alkoxy, and C₁₋₆alkoxy
substituted by one or more F;

R^{10} is selected from the group consisting of H and halogen; and
n is 0.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-(cyclohexylmethyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinamine;

N-cyclohexyl-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinamine;

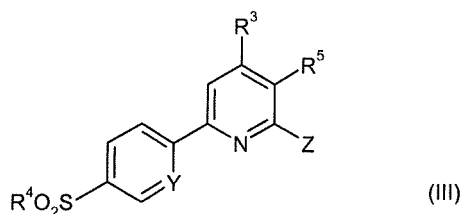
N-cycloheptyl-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinamine;

N-(cis-4-methylcyclohexyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinamine;

N-(1-ethylpropyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinamine;
and

N-(cyclopentylmethyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinamine.

7. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound as defined in claim 1 which comprises reacting a compound R^1XH , or a protected derivative thereof, with a compound of formula (III)



where R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , and X , and Y are as defined in claim 1 and Z is halogen or a sulfonate, and thereafter and if necessary, interconverting a compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I), and/or deprotecting a protected derivative of compound of formula (I).

8. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1 in admixture with one or more physiologically acceptable carriers or excipients.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled).
11. (Canceled).
- 12-13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled).
15. (Canceled).
16. (Canceled).
17. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an animal subject suffering from ~~The method according to claim 11, wherein said condition is~~ rheumatoid arthritis mediated by COX-2, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.
18. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an animal subject suffering from ~~The method according to claim 11, wherein said condition is~~ osteoarthritis mediated by COX-2, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.
19. (Canceled).
20. (Canceled).
21. (Canceled).

22. (Canceled).

23. (Canceled).

24. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 2 in admixture with one or more physiologically acceptable carriers or excipients.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Canceled).

27. (Previously Presented) N-cyclohexyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)-6-[4-methylsulfonyl]phenyl]pyridine-2-amine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.